

species," as expressed, about a year ago, in the 'Annals.' I now write to state that I am preparing a supplement to my 'Notes on Permian Fossils,—Palliobranchiata,' in which the "distinctly and regularly perforated" histological structure of the German species will be more fully described than I have yet done, and proved to be like that "of any *Terebratulidæ*."

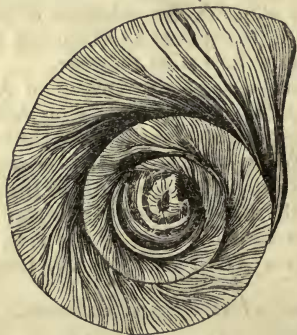
I cannot conclude without expressing my warm appreciation of the trouble which both Mr. Davidson and Dr. Carpenter have taken in this question.

I am, Gentlemen,
Yours very truly,
WILLIAM KING.

On the Nucleus of the Operculum of Cyclostoma elegans.
By JOHN EDWARD GRAY, Ph.D., F.R.S.

In my various physiological papers I have attempted to establish the fact that the opercula of shells are analogous to the second valve of a bivalve shell, and are in fact a counterpart of the other valve. I have shown that they are formed at the same time on the body of the Mollusca; that they have a peculiar mantle, similar to the mantle of the spiral shell, and that they are increased in size in the same manner.

On lately examining the operculum of *Cyclostoma elegans*, I was struck with the fact (which might have been foreseen when the first formation is considered) that they have a somewhat irregular nucleus or first-formed part, like the nucleus to be observed on the apex of the spire of most univalve shells, as shown in the accompanying figure, drawn and engraved by Miss Jessie Dunlop.



I may further observe, that the operculum of this shell is formed of two shelly plates, separated from each other by arched laminae concentric with the outer edge of the last whorl, placed under the concentric grooves of growth on the outer and inner surface, leaving a series of pores on the circumference in the groove between the two plates.—*Proc. Zool. Soc.* May 27, 1856.